



## WHAT TYPE OF POWER?

- Existing residential occupancies are required to have individual, single station, battery powered smoke detectors.
- All newly constructed residential occupancies are required to have “hard-wired” smoke detectors. This means a licensed electrician must install the smoke detectors so that they are powered by household electricity. If there is more than one smoke detector, they must be wired so that if **one** smoke detector sounds, they **all** will sound.



## WHEN DO THEY HAVE TO BE INSTALLED?

The date for compliance for existing one- and two-family dwellings, mobile homes, modular homes, and townhouses was July 1, 1994.



## WAIT! WHAT IF I HAVE MORE QUESTIONS?

If you have any other questions, contact the Office of State Fire Marshal nearest you:

### NEW CASTLE COUNTY

(302) 323-5365

### KENT COUNTY

(302) 739-4394

### SUSSEX COUNTY

(302) 856-5298



## WHEN A SMOKE DETECTOR SOUNDS?

Being awakened by a smoke detector can be disorienting. How your family responds in a fire depends on how well you have prepared.

Make sure everyone knows the sound of the detector's alarm and how to respond.

Plan escape routes in advance, and include at least two ways out of each room – **especially the bedrooms.**

Decide on a safe location outside your home, and instruct all residents to meet there in the event of fire so you'll be sure everyone is out. **Don't go back into the building.**

Practice your escape plan at least twice a year.

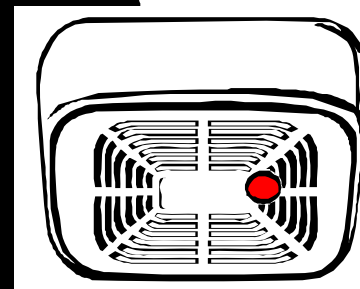
Have one person call the fire department from a neighbor's phone. Tell the dispatcher your name, address, the exact location of the fire, and whether anyone is still in the building. **Stay on the phone until the dispatcher tells you to hang up.**

If your smoke detector sounds an alarm and there is no smoke present, the cooking in your kitchen, smoke from a fireplace or other non-threatening causes may be responsible. **Do not remove any batteries!** Fan the air away from the detector until the alarm stops. If this happens frequently, it may be necessary to relocate the detector or install a different type of detector.



*Provided as a Public Service by the  
Delaware State Fire Marshal's Office  
1537 Chestnut Grove Road  
Dover, DE 19904  
(302) 739-5665*

## DELAWARE'S SMOKE DETECTOR LAW...



# & YOU!



## WHAT SMOKE DETECTOR LAW?

Delaware Code, Title 16, Chapter 66, Section 6631 requires the installation of smoke detectors on **EACH** level of **ALL** one- and two-family dwellings, mobile homes, modular homes, and townhouses. This law required all new and existing residential occupancies to have the required smoke detection devices installed by **JULY 1, 1994**.



## WHO MUST INSTALL SMOKE DETECTORS?

The owners of **ALL**:

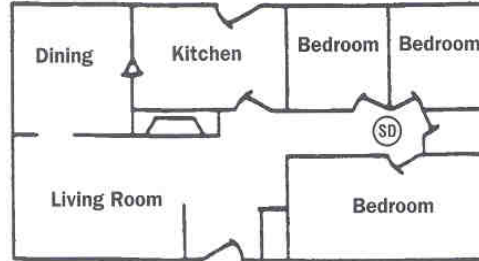
- \* One- and Two-Family Homes
- \* Mobile Homes
- \* Modular Homes
- \* Townhouses

**must** install the required number of smoke detectors. In a rented or leased living unit where there are battery powered smoke detectors, the **OWNERS must** install the smoke detectors. Where the rental or lease agreement is for a period of one month or more, the **TENANT** is responsible to maintain the battery in the smoke detector.



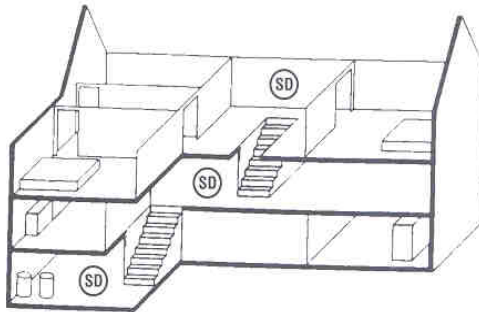
## WHY INSTALL SMOKE DETECTORS?

Smoke detectors should be installed, not because it is the law, but because **PROPERLY INSTALLED AND MAINTAINED SMOKE DETECTORS WILL SAVE YOUR LIFE AND THE LIFE OF YOUR FAMILY**. In the past five years, 67 people have died in the State of Delaware as a result of fires in their homes. Of those 67 fire deaths, 80% of them were not protected by a working smoke detector.



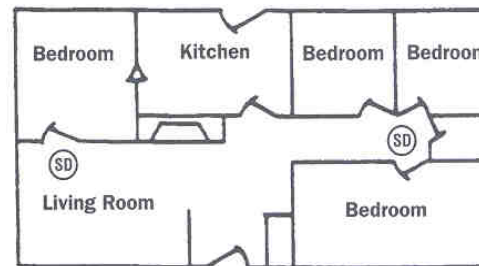
**SINGLE-LEVEL RESIDENTIAL OCCUPANCY**

Locate detectors at bedrooms



**MULTI-LEVEL RESIDENTIAL OCCUPANCY**

Locate detectors at each level



**MANUFACTURED RESIDENTIAL OCCUPANCY**

Locate detectors at each bedroom or group of bedrooms

(SD) = Smoke Detector



## HOW MANY SMOKE DETECTORS?

The number of smoke detectors is determined by:

1. The number of levels in the home; and
2. The number and location of bedrooms.



## WHERE DO I INSTALL SMOKE DETECTORS?

1. Install a smoke detector at each level of the home, including the basement.
2. Install a smoke detector outside each bedroom or group of bedrooms.

**In either case, follow the manufacturer's specifications for installation. They will tell you exactly where to mount the smoke detectors and what inspection, testing and maintenance is required.**



## WHAT KIND OF SMOKE DETECTORS?

A smoke detector can be either the photoelectric or ionization type, but both are designed to sense the visible and invisible particles of smoke and gas from fire. Make sure the smoke detector is listed by Underwriters Laboratory. Read the package carefully and look for the U. L. symbol.



**Underwriters  
Laboratories Inc. ®**